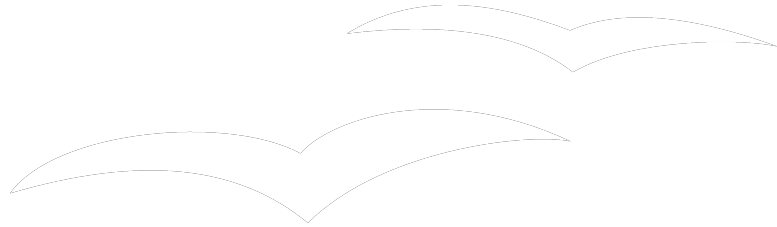


How to Setup Multiple Screens under Linux

Using Xinerama



[How to Setup Multiple Screens under Linux]
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Overview

This how to document describes a method of using Xcinerama to enable display of presentations and other documentation under Linux.

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Feedback

Please direct any comments or suggestions about this document to: grsingleton@openoffice.org and Chris Tyler <chris@tylers.info>

Acknowledgments

Chris Tyler <chris@tylers.info> for his original work and for letting us publish it for the OpenOffice.org community.

Modifications and updates

<i>Version</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description of Change</i>
[0.1]	[2005-07-25]	[ct:: http://www.ooforum.org/forum/viewtopic.phtml?p=86445#86445]
[0.2]	[2005-11-06]	[grs: Initial edition issued for comment]

How to Setup Multiple Screens under Linux

While researching the Internet for a some idea of how to display Impress presentations using two different screens, I discovered a webpage that described how to use Xinerama to do this in Linux. I cannot find the name of the originator but acknowledge my debt to his work.

I have since tested the procedure using my laptop with an external monitor and it works well, but is somewhat limited.

This method uses the "Normal" slide view and two displays of different resolutions. The control screen displays the entire OpenOffice.org Impress display, and the projector displays an enlargement of just the slide portion of the window. This permits previewing the available slides and then selecting the one for display by double-clicking it.

Setup

- (1) Configure a Xinerama display. This is a display where a virtual screen is divided into two or more areas which are displayed on separate monitors.

*Note: If you have an nVidia card with two outputs (or a laptop with an nVidia card), you can use **Twinview** instead of the standard Xinerama configuration.*

- (2) Configure the projected screen to have a lower resolution than the control screen. I used 1024x768 (native resolution) on the laptop LCD and 800x600 on the external display.
- (3) Set the offsets of the control screen to "0 0" and the offsets of the projected screen to (say) "200 200". What this does is cause the projected screen to show a subset of the control screen. Your `xorg.conf` `ServerLayout` section will look like this:

```
Screen 0 "Screen0" 0 0
Screen 1 "Screen1" 200 200
```

Or if you're using Twinview with an nVidia chipset, the `Device` section of `xorg.conf` will contain a line something like this:

```
MetaModes "800x600 +200+200, 1400x1050 +0+0"
```

- (4) Start the X server, then start Impress. (If you're using Gnome and nVidia TwinView, the panel bars will be in the middle of the screen, since the smaller projector screen is considered Primary. Drag the panel bars to the bottom of the screen). Use the "Normal" Impress view, with the slide pane down the left and the Tasks pane on the right. Adjust the width of the middle pane by dragging the dividers between the panes until the image is the correct width for the projector. Scroll the middle pane until the slide fills the screen.

You can now scroll through the available slides on the left-hand side of the screen and select the one you wish to view, and then activate it with a double-click.

This solution is not elegant, but it does provide a workaround until the necessary feature is implemented in OOo.

Here is an image of a system courtesy of Chris Tyler <chris@tylers.info> with this configuration:



Note: Be careful not to let your mouse stray into the projected portion of the display during your presentation.

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